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Governor Doyle Announces \$4 Million Initiative to Continue Successful 'Transportation to Jobs' Program

MADISON – Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle today announced that a total of 17 transportation-provider groups from across the state will benefit from a \$4 million initiative that continues the Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program (WETAP) – an ongoing and successful effort that connects low-income workers with jobs through enhanced local transit services.

"WETAP represents a proven investment in transportation services that not only benefits workers, but also strengthens our economy," Governor Doyle said. "I am pleased to announce this \$4 million initiative to continue this successful 'transportation to jobs' program."

Enhanced transit services made possible through WETAP include additional bus and taxi routes, vanpool and shuttle services, car loan, vehicle loan and vehicle repair programs, and the hiring of local mobility managers who coordinate transportation services for area workers and employers.

"Access to safe, reliable transportation is an important supportive service for working families," said DWD Secretary Roberta Gassman. "The WETAP program is making a world of difference for families who need that extra assistance to attain employment, retain employment, and advance in employment."

"WETAP has established a commendable track record of connecting workers with jobs," said WisDOT Secretary Frank Busalacchi. "These awards will allow numerous groups that form the foundation of WETAP's success to continue providing essential transportation services."

WETAP integrates local, state, and federal funding sources into a single, coordinated program and award process administered jointly by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT). WETAP combines funds from the federal Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC), along with the state Transportation Employment and Mobility (TEAM) program and Employment Transit Assistance funds (ETA). For this year, the federal and state investment totals about \$4 million, with the local funding share totaling about \$1.25 million.

Editors' note: The attached table lists the award recipients, the planned transit-related enhancements, and the amount of the WETAP award (the amount listed does not include the local share).

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2008 Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program (WETAP) Grant Recipients

Applicant	County	Project(s)	WETAP award
Central Wisconsin Community Action Council, Inc. (608) 254-8353	Columbia, Adams, Dodge, Waushara	Car Loan Program, Mobility Manager, Employer Vanpool	\$ 52,498
City of Appleton/Valley Transit The Connector (920) 832-2291	Outagamie	Public Transit Routes	\$ 91,453
City of Waukesha Transit Commission (262) 524-3633	Waukesha	Public Transit Routes	\$ 435,914
Community Action, Inc., of Rock and Walworth Counties (608) 755-2485	Rock Walworth	Vehicle Loan, Mobility Manager	\$ 121,200
Couleecap, Inc. (608) 634-7377	Vernon, Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe	Vehicle Loan, Training	\$ 156,200
Fond du Lac County (920) 929-3912	Fond d Lac	Vehicle Repair, Vehicle Loan, Guaranteed Ride Home, Childcare Transportation, Carpool/Vanpool	\$ 218,881
Kenosha Achievement Center, Inc. (262) 658-9636	Kenosha	Shuttle Services, Vehicle Repair, Software, Mobility Manager	\$ 307,904
Milwaukee Careers Cooperative (Milwaukee Area JobRide Collaborative) (414) 937-8260	Milwaukee	Shuttle Guaranteed Ride Home Training/OJT	\$ 582,053
Milwaukee County (414) 278-4888	Milwaukee	Public Transit Fixed Route and UMOs Route 54	\$ 750,000
Northwestern Wisconsin Community Services Agency (715) 392-5127	Douglas	Childcare, Vehicle Loan, Vanpool, Rideshare, Bus Passes	\$ 45,978
Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program, Inc. (608) 935-2326	Lafayette, Grant, Green, Iowa, Richland	Mobility Manager Auto Loans	\$ 184,874
V. E. Carter Development Group, Inc. (414) 933-4044	Milwaukee	Childcare Transportation, Shuttle Services	\$ 488,237
West Central Community Action Agency, Inc. (715) 265-4271	St. Croix, Barron, Chippewa, Dunn, Pepin, Pierce, Polk	Vehicle Loan & Rideshare	\$ 113,674
Western Dairyland Economic Opportunity Council (715) 836-7511	Trempeleau, Buffalo, Eau Claire, Jackson	Vehicle Loan, Vehicle Repair, Training	\$ 147,495

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Women's Employment Project, Inc. (920) 743-7273	Door, Kewaunee	Vehicle Loan, Vehicle Repair, Guarantee Ride Home, Rideshare	\$ 49,795
Workforce Connections, Inc. (608) 769-5602	La Crosse, Juneau, Crawford, Monroe, Vernon	Vehicle Loan Program	\$ 271,152
Waukesha Ozaukee Washington Workforce Development, Inc. (262) 695-7884	Waukesha, Ozaukee Washington	Vehicle Loan Program	\$ 106,841
TOTAL WETAP AWARDS:*			\$4,124,149

*This figure does NOT include local funding match.